MINUTES - REGULAR MEETING
SANTA MARIA CITY COUNCIL

CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
SANTA MARIA, CALIFORNIA

AUGUST 2, 2016

INVOCATION:
Pastor Greg Burtnett of Grace Baptist Church gave the Invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG:
Councilmember Boysen led the Pledge of Allegiance.

CALL TO ORDER:
Mayor Patino called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL:
MEMBERS PRESENT
Councilmembers Boysen, Orach, Waterfield, Zuniga, and Mayor Patino.

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT
City Manager Haydon, Director of Community Development Appel, Director of Finance Harvey, Director of Public Works Kahn, Interim Fire Chief Kenley, Police Chief Martin, Director of Recreation & Parks Posada, Director of Utilities Springer, Deputy City Manager Stilwell, Transit Services Manager O'Dell, Assistant City Attorney Sinco, and Chief Deputy City Clerk Garietz.

1. PROCLAMATIONS/COMMENDATIONS/PRESENTATIONS:
There were no Proclamations or Presentations.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD
Arnulfo Romero, representing One Community Action, expressed concerns that the City has not put more financing toward repressing violence.

Anne Cremarosa, representing the Santa Maria Business Development Center, spoke about the process of economic development and the success of the Development Center in the last six months. She also invited the City Council to visit the Development Center's new location at 731 S. Lincoln on Wednesday, August 3rd from 6-8 p.m.

Don Pack spoke about a neighbor who owns pigeons and the issues that have arisen from the situation. He asked if the City would consider an ordinance regulating bird ownership.

Mayor Patino advised Mr. Pack that someone from the City would be contacting him.

3. CONSENT CALENDAR:
Councilmember Zuniga asked to comment on Item 3G.

Councilmember Zuniga commented that some constituents had a discussion with her regarding the Community Outreach Coordinator position and a concern they had regarding the funding.

Consent Calendar Items 3A through 3G were approved, on motion by Councilmember Boysen, seconded by Councilmember Zuniga, and carried on the following vote: 5-0

AYES:	Councilmembers Boysen, Orach, Waterfield, Zuniga, and Mayor Patino
NOES:	None
ABSENT:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

A. ORDINANCES
The reading in full of all ordinances and resolutions was waived. Ordinances on the Consent Calendar were adopted by the same vote cast at the first reading unless City Council indicated otherwise.

B. MINUTES
The Minutes of the Special Meeting of the City Council of July 11, 2016, were approved as submitted.

C. COUNCIL STIPENDS
The City Council conducted the second reading and adoption of Ordinance No. 2016-16 amending Section 2-2.02 of the Municipal Code increasing Council salaries by $263 per month.

Ordinance No. 2016-16 adopted. AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA MARIA, CALIFORNIA AMENDING TITLE 2, CHAPTER 2-2 OF THE SANTA MARIA MUNICIPAL CODE.

D. DESIGNATION OF VOTING DELEGATES
Mayor Patino was designated the Voting Delegate, and City Manager Haydon as the Alternate, for the League of California Cities' 2016 Annual Conference.

E. WARRANTS
Warrant Nos. 201532 to 201814 totaling $1,406,348.10 were ordered ratified subject to having been certified as being in conformity with the budget and having been approved for payment by the Director of Administrative Services. Warrant Nos. 196254 and 201123 were cancelled.

F. PAYROLL
Payment of payroll was ordered ratified subject to having been certified by the proper Department Heads, as shown on records on file in the Department of Administrative Services and having been approved for payment by the Director of Administrative Services.

G. 2016-17 APPROPRIATION LIMIT
Resolution No. 2016-104 was adopted setting the City's Appropriation Limit for 2016-17 at $163,743,786 pursuant to Proposition 4.

Resolution No. 2016-104 adopted. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA MARIA, CALIFORNIA, ESTABLISHING AN APPROPRIATION LIMIT FOR 2016-17.

REGULAR BUSINESS

4. SHORT RANGE TRANSIT PLAN UPDATE. Director of Public Works Kahn gave a presentation as detailed in the written Council Agenda Report. Santa Maria Area Transit began operating in 1976. Currently, there are 26 busses and 10 vans in operation. The downtown Transit Center was opened in 2011. The goal of the short-range transit plan was to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of the evening service and to improve the farebox ratio (ratio of farebox revenue to operating cost). The State of California requires that the farebox ratio be 20 percent or higher. Santa Maria has not increased fares since 2005. Staff is recommending a fare increase from $1.25 per rider to $1.50 effective February 13, 2017.

The first step staff took to create the proposed transit plan update was to conduct outreach. Staff performed ride-checks, spoke with riders to gather information about service needs, and held 12 workshops for public input. In an effort to reduce operating costs, staff restructured the contract with First Transit, the City's transit provider, to provide for one rate based on hours operated for all services. Staff also took advantage of an accounting practice called Capital Cost of Contracting which separates maintenance costs from operating costs. In addition, an ADA paratransit computer was installed to aid in dispatching ADA busses more efficiently.

Existing evening service provides three routes that operate from 7:15 p.m. to 10:15 p.m. Studies indicated that evening service had a much lower ridership than day service. Staff recommended that shorter direct routes be established in the evening and that evening service be provided between 6:30 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. since ridership falls off after 9:00 p.m.

Staff recommended that there be no transit service on five holidays (New Year's Day, Christmas Day, Thanksgiving Day, Easter Sunday, and Independence Day), and to offer weekend service on Martin Luther King Day, Presidents' Day, Memorial Day, Labor Day, Veterans Day, the day before Thanksgiving, the day after Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve, the day after Christmas, and New Year's Day.

The Americans with Disabilities Act allows for paratransit fares to be twice the regular bus fare as there are more costs associated with running an ADA service. Staff proposed that fares increase from $1.25 to $3.00 over a three year period.

Councilmember Waterfield asked what caused the loss in ridership and rise in operating costs in 2011.

Director of Public Works Kahn responded that the City had opened the new transit center and reconfigured the route system, thus causing some riders to choose other methods of transportation. Operating costs went up historically until 2011-2012. However, they dropped once the City switched to the Capital Cost of Contracting method which separates maintenance costs from operating costs. The following year, costs went back up due to the purchase of busses. Staff intends to continue to use Capital Cost of Contracting to reduce reported operating costs.

Councilmember Zuniga asked why the study was done to improve and maintain the farebox ratio given that the farebox ratio was low for only one year. She also asked if the numbers being presented were indicative of 2013 or current numbers.

Director of Public Works Kahn responded that the numbers were indicative of 2013, staff had been keeping close track of them since the study, and that the numbers were still relevant. The one year drop was dramatic enough to require a study and gas prices were higher than usual, so staff felt it appropriate to do the study.

Councilmember Zuniga commented that some of the timing for the bus routes had been off-schedule and perhaps that was the cause of lower ridership.

Director of Public Works Kahn responded that ride-checkers were now in place who take the busses regularly and keep staff informed of any problems. If necessary, the City can fine First Transit for any violations in schedule.

Councilmember Boysen asked if the City had taken advantage of capitalizing maintenance costs in 2013-14.

Transit Services Manager O'Dell responded that the City had done so, but not consistently.

Councilmember Boysen asked what the penalty was if the City did not meet the required 20 percent farebox ratio.

Transit Services Manager O'Dell responded that the State could deny funding the transit system.

Councilmember Boysen commented that anyone who takes advantage of the City's mass transit is basicallygetting it for about twenty cents on the dollar.

Director of Public Works Kahn responded that fares do not take into account the purchase of new busses and/or maintenance and that fare increases had not been set beyond 2017.

Councilmember Boysen asked if there were any other planned fare increases other than those set for ADA clients beyond February 2017 for regular fares.

Director of Public Works Kahn responded that no other fare increases were planned.

Public Comment
There were no requests to speak.

Council Discussion
There was no discussion by the City Council.

Resolution No. 2016-105 was adopted approving the 2015-16 Short Range Transit Plan Update, on motion by Councilmember Boysen, seconded by Councilmember Orach, and carried on the following vote: 5-0

AYES:	Councilmembers Boysen, Orach, Waterfield, Zuniga, and Mayor Patino
NOES:	None
ABSENT:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

Resolution No. 2016-105 adopted. A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SANTA MARIA, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING THE SHORT RANGE TRANSIT PLAN UPDATE FOR SANTA MARIA AREA TRANSIT AND IMPLEMENT CHANGES TO EVENING SERVICE, HOLIDAY SERVICE SCHEDULE, AND FARES.

5. IDENTIFICATION OF PROGRAM DELIVERABLES AS THEY PERTAIN TO THE CENTRAL COAST COLLABORATIVE ON HOMELESSNESS (C3H). Deputy City Manager Stilwell gave a presentation as detailed in the written Council Agenda Report. During the City's recent budget analysis, the City Council had asked staff to identify program deliverables C3H offered that would be most valuable to the community in addressing homelessness.

Chuck Flacks, Executive Director of C3H, acknowledged Councilmembers Boysen and Zuniga for their several years of service on the C3H Policy Council. He explained that C3H was not a direct service

organization. The organization does not provide homeless services, but rather is data driven and collaborates with a broad group of service providers to reduce the number of people experiencing homelessness and minimize the impacts of homelessness in Santa Barbara County. The organization is headquartered in Santa Maria under the umbrella of United Way. The $24,000 the City has budgeted for C3H will help support their presence in Santa Maria. He added that Santa Maria would also be the headquarters of the new AmeriCorps program that would be contributing about 20 people to help with homelessness prevention efforts.

A Santa Barbara County Regional Homeless Profile Summary showed that in Santa Maria, 70 percent of the homeless population were families who benefit from Good Samaritan Shelter. The other 30 percent struggled with a lack of services. C3H strives to leverage the services that do exist for 30 percent of that population. C3H operates with three primary strategies. The first being to prepare homeless individuals to be *housing ready.* The next strategy is *housing first* which applies more to people who are resistant to sobriety and/or dysfunctional in shelters. This strategy was not currently being implemented as there was limited housing available in Santa Maria; however, 15 out of 22 identified *housing first* individuals in the City of Santa Barbara have been housed in the last three years. The third approach is to *reunify* homeless persons with family or employers. This strategy has been very successful.

C3H plans to unite partner agencies and conduct weekly outreach to try to get homeless persons housed, or relocated, and cared for. C3H goals over the next fiscal year were to house and maintain housing for five individuals for at least 12 to 18 months; reunify five people; add 40 new people to their client management system; train 10 volunteers; complete 500 hours in volunteer engagement; involve 10 agencies in coordinated outreach; connect 20 new people with local services; engage 10 agencies in the use of Vertical Change; and work with Good Samaritan and the Salvation Army to have 10 individuals who would be *housing ready.* Vertical Change is a tracking system that C3H developed in partnership with a Santa Barbara-based software company. Homeless individuals are entered into a client management system that can be accessed by agencies across the County.

C3H has plans to work with a team of students from Cal Poly University in San Luis Obispo who will do a needs-assessment based on the City's current affordable housing units, the homeless population, crime rate, rental rate, unemployment rate, reported rates of addiction, and homeless visibility index.

Mr. Flacks closed his presentation saying he planned to give updates during the Public Comment Session at several Council meetings per year to keep the Council informed.

Public Input

Eddie Taylor, representing United Way, stated that United Way works as the fiscal agent to C3H, providing executive oversight, financial management, and an office for them in Santa Maria. He encouraged the Council to continue funding C3H and support their initiatives. He added that having a workforce from AmeriCorps would be an excellent opportunity to have "boots on the ground" efforts focusing on the needs of homeless and veteran populations.

Councilmember Waterfield inquired as to what AmeriCorps is and what they do.

Eddie Taylor explained that AmeriCorps was similar to the Peace Corps, but serves communities throughout the United States instead of overseas. Participants serve for a one-year period in collaboration with agencies in their area of service. They receive a monthly stipend and, at the end of their year of service, a stipend toward education.

Councilmember Boysen commented that the 20 AmeriCorps participants would be strategically involved in C3H efforts and that he had found them to be particularly helpful in projects with Good Samaritan Shelter in the past.

Mayor Patino asked how the homeless population in Santa Barbara differed from that in Santa Maria.

Jeff Shaffer, Community Organizer with C3H, responded that the homeless population in Santa Maria was much more spread out than in Santa Barbara where there were pockets of homeless people. C3H is committed to establishing regional care and referral centers for unsheltered homeless populations to aid them with shelter, food, laundry and showers while C3H collects data. Mr. Shaffer said the efforts should help about 90 percent of the population, but there will continue to be a few people who do not want help.

Councilmember Waterfield asked what kind of timeline was involved in working with a homeless client.

Mr. Shaffer responded that it depended on the individual, but some people can take several months to build trust with C3H before they could be referred to a service or a housing opportunity (called a "warm handoff"). Different organizations require different amounts of time to work with homeless individuals.

Councilmember Orach commented that he was encouraged by the Vertical Change as it seemed to be more of a beneficial collaboration.

Mr. Shaffer stated C3H sees three levels to helping alleviate issues with homeless populations. There was a policy effort level; a coordination level; and a "boots on the ground" level collecting data and establishing relationships with homeless individuals. The key to success will be in sharing data.

Mayor Patino asked when an update would be delivered following the establishment of the AmeriCorps participants in September.

Mr. Flacks responded that he planned to give periodic updates with a snapshot of C3H progress each time during Public Comment.

Melanie Sularz, representing the Salvation Army, spoke about the work the Salvation Army does with homeless people in Santa Maria. The organization plans to establish a referral center in September to provide services to homeless individuals.

Council Discussion
Councilmember Zuniga commented that when non-profits do not share their information with each other, it does not help anyone in the community.

Councilmember Boysen commented that he was happy to see the Vertical Change and looked forward to a universal database with information about the homeless population in the City.

Council Direction
It was the consensus of the City Council to accept the program deliverables provided by C3H and continue funding C3H at the amount adopted in the 2016-18 Budget on motion by Councilmember Boysen, seconded by Councilmember Orach, and carried on the following vote: 5-0

AYES:	Councilmembers Boysen, Orach, Waterfield, Zuniga, and Mayor Patino
NOES:	None
ABSENT:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

6. PROPOSAL TO INCREASE PLANNING COMMISSION AND RECREATION & PARKS COMMISSION STIPENDS. Deputy City Manager Stilwell gave a presentation as detailed in the Council Agenda Report. At the last meeting, staff was requested to review and bring back to the City Council compensation increases for Commissioners on the Planning Commission and Recreation & Parks Commission. With the results of an analysis of stipends in nearby cities, staff found that the current compensation is competitive and recommended that stipends for the Commissioners remain at $75 per meeting.

Councilmember Boysen commented on the work each Commission does and thanked the Commissioners for their service and acknowledged the amount of work they do on behalf of their respective Commissions.

Public Input
There were no requests to speak.

Council Discussion
There was no discussion from Councilmembers.

It was the consensus of the City Council to receive and file the information without change to the current policy.

7. DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE. Director of Community Development Appel gave a presentation as detailed in the Council Agenda Report. The Downtown Specific Plan (DTSP) was now in its implementation phase. A grant from Caltrans was recently secured and the formation of a Downtown Revitalization Committee was the next step in the process. Commissioner Robert Dickerson from the Planning Commission and Yleana Velasco from the Recreation & Parks Commission have been appointed to the Committee. Representation from the City Council was needed to complete the Committee the proposed three member committee.

Public Input
There were no requests to speak.

Council Discussion
Councilmember Zuniga indicated that with her upcoming campaign for a seat on the City Council, she would not have enough time to commit to the new Committee and she no longer wanted to be considered for the Committee.

Councilmember Orach indicated that since the Committee was to be a Brown Act Committee, it could be difficult to maintain a quorum with only three members. He recommended that both Councilmembers Boysen and Waterfield be appointed.

It was a consensus of the City Council to appoint Councilmember Boysen and Councilmember Waterfield to the new Downtown Revitalization Committee on motion by Councilmember Orach, seconded by Councilmember Zuniga, and carried, and carried unanimously: 5-0

REPORT BY CITY MANAGER:
City Manager Haydon reported the next meeting would be August 16, 2016 and would include an award of bid; appointments to the Recreation & Parks Commission and the Santa Maria Community Television Board; and four public hearings – an appeal to the Planning Commission's decision regarding Golden Bear Winery, a Development Agreement with Windset Farms, a mixed use conditional use permit for Los Primos Market, and an ordinance regarding the use of tobacco in City parks and public spaces. He stated there would also be two regular business items – one urgency ordinance for the regulation of cannabis manufacturing/testing/distribution, and the fourth quarter financial report.

ORAL REPORTS OF COUNCILMEMBERS AND OFFICERS (INCLUDING AB1234 REPORTS):
Councilmember Zuniga reported she attended the Santa Barbara County Fair Opening Reception; a C3H meeting; a Special Olympics fundraiser; Concerts in the Park; met with Chuck Flacks of C3H; volunteered with the Special Olympics Tip-A-Cop fundraiser; attended the Santa Maria Valley Chamber of Commerce mixer at Downtown Fridays; attended a fundraiser sponsored by Ladies of the Moose; volunteered for the Solvang PCPA theatre fundraiser; and attended National Night Out.

Councilmember Waterfield reported she spoke on the Ben Heighes Radio Show; attended the Santa Barbara County Fair Opening Reception; attended the Vandenberg Change of Guard Ceremony; attended the SBCAG Monthly Board Meeting; met with a potential new restaurant business; attended Allan Hancock's Orfalea Children's Center Dedication; attended a meeting with Chuck Flacks of C3H; and presented a Proclamation to the Moose Lodge.

Councilmember Orach reported he met with Chuck Flacks of C3H and attended several of the activities previously mentioned by Councilmembers Waterfield and Zuniga.

Councilmember Boysen reported he attended a C3H Policy Council meeting and a meeting with the Central Coast Water Authority.

Mayor Patino reported she attended the Santa Barbara County Fair Opening Reception; interviewed with the Santa Maria Valley Chamber of Commerce; attended Downtown Fridays; spoke on the Ben Heighes Radio Show; attended a Rotary meeting; met with Chuck Flacks of C3H; and attended National Night Out.

CLOSED SESSION
The City Council convened to a Closed Session at 7:59 p.m. for a conference with real property negotiators pursuant to Section 54956.8 of the Government Code regarding the price and terms of payment for Surplus Water (Up to 2,000 AF) with agency negotiator - Shad Springer, Director of Utilities; and negotiating parties - the City of Santa Maria and Montecito Water District.

CLOSED SESSION REPORT
Following the Closed Session, Assistant City Attorney Sinco announced that no reportable action taken.

ADJOURNMENT:
There being no further business before the City Council, Mayor Patino declared the City Council meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

APPROVED:

August 16, 2016
Date

Rhonda M. Garietz, CMC
Chief Deputy City Clerk and ex officio Clerk of the City Council

ATTEST:

Rhonda M. Garietz, CMC
Chief Deputy City Clerk

Alice M. Patino
Mayor of the City of Santa Maria